താണ്. സെൻട്രൽബോർഡിൽ അതാതു താലൂക്കിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ മാത്രം സാധിക്കണമെന്നു അതാതു താലൂക്കിലെ മെമ്പർമാർ വാദിച്ചാൽ ഒടുവിൽ കായ്ങ്ങാം തീരുമാനിക്കാൻ പ്രയാസമുണ്ടാകും. അങ്ങിനെ പ്രയാസമുണ്ടായതായിട്ടും കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. റോഡുബോർഡ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ട അധികം കാലമായില്ല. അതിന്റെ ശൈശവാവസ്ഥയിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ബോർഡ് ശരിയായി നടക്കാൻ അതിലെ മെമ്പർമാർ എല്ലാം ഒത്തൊരുമിച്ചു ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

നിങ്ങൾപറഞ്ഞ മറ്റുഭാഗങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ആലോചിക്കാം.

[Even though the Todupuzha taluk returns only one member, that member has dealt with the needs of the various parts of the taluk. Government will not also neglect the taluk on the ground of its being represented by a single member. You may rest assured that all your requests will be considered, though it may not now be possible for me to say that some are granted. What you said about education generally will be considered. It is the duty of every one to promote the spread of education among Mahomedans; but it has to be considered whether special schools for boys are necessary for any community. Of course, special schools for Muslim girls are necessary. The question for consideration is whether provision for religious instruction cannot be made in the ordinary schools or whether separate schools are necessary in these advanced times. What I said should not be taken to imply any lack of sympathy or diminution of interest on the part of Government in regard to Muslim education. The Road Boards have come in for a large share of adverse criticism at this session. That is natural in the case of a person or organisation dealing with the demands of a large number of people. It is inevitable that the majority will be discontended and dissatisfied with those decisions. The work of the Road Boards is difficult and members should deal sympathetically and in a spirit of give and take with the requirements of the entire area instead of concentrating on the needs of their own taluks. The Board is in its infancy and co-operation between the members is essential. All the other points urged by you will receive consideration.]

132. Needs of the Muvattupuzha Taluk.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha taluk*), who spoke in Malayalam, began his representation by referring to the great distress caused by the phenomenal fall in the prices of agricultural products, particularly of rubber and lemon-grass oil, which were the chief industries in which 90 per cent. of the people of the taluk were engaged. Between the pressure exerted by the money-lenders on the one hand and the tax-gatherers, who distrained their goods and ornaments, on the other, the people were suffering untold misery. Estates were being destroyed by wild fire, their value had fallen considerably and sufficient funds to

maintain the plantation could not be raised. It was customary in times of such distress for the Government to lend a helping hand to the people; but nothing like that had been done during the serious economic depression of 1106.

The tariff values of copra and dry ginger were raised by a recent notification to Rs. 120 and Rs. 215, respectively, per candy, while the ruling prices of the commodities in the market were only Rs. 55 and Rs. 70, respectively. The tariff value of lemon-grass oil also bore no reasonable relation to its market value. The tariff values should be reduced in order that they might approximate to the market prices of the commodities. Levy of duty at the above standards of valuation was illegal, unjust and oppressive. The duty on pepper and turmeric should also be reduced.

For relieving popular distress, Government should make some sacrifices. No land tax should be collected from the people for a year. A Land Mortgage Bank should be established to enable the ryots of the taluk to take loans on the security of their lands, at low rates of interest and for fairly long periods. Wet lands suitable for paddy cultivation should be excluded from the reserve forests. The right of ownership of teak and other trees standing on registered holdings should be granted to the people concerned. All the roads which were sanctioned to be constructed to open up and connect places suited for cultivation should be taken in hand and completed without any loss of time. A fairly large amount was necessary for carrying out the above-said suggestions. It might be obtained by effecting a reduction in the salaries of officers who were drawing Rs. 150 or more per mensem. The officers might not feel that an injustice had been done to them as the prices of the staple articles of food, clothing, etc., had fallen considerably.

Speaking about the general needs of the taluk, the member said that an Agricultural School should be opened in the taluk. A library of agricultural books and magazines should be added to the school. Fifty or sixty acres of land in different parts of the taluk might be used for opening model farms to cultivate paddy, ginger, pepper, cocoanut and aracanut palms, lemon-grass, etc. Improved methods should be adopted and up-to-date implements used in the farms. A Veterinary Hospital should be established in the taluk.

Government had been very slow in providing suitable means of communication in the interior of the Muvattupuzha taluk. Funds provided for the purpose in the annual budgets lapsed at the end of every year. The construction of the Kothamangalam-Nadukani-Peruvinnoor road and the Chelathu-Kilikuthi road should be immediately commenced. The latter road, the construction of which had already been sanctioned, should be extended to the bank of the Periyar near the place called Bhoothathankettu. Provision was made in the budget for 1106 for the two roads. The construction of roads and bridges in the taluk, for which funds had been provided in the budget for 1106, should

be immediately begun and, if necessary, funds should be provided in the budget for 1107 for the completion of the works.

The construction of the road from the 8th mile-stone of the Perumbavur-Kothamangalom road to Kuttikal along Kottapadi and the Kuzhikandam-Neduvakkad road should be completed.

The lane along the market *poramboke* at Kothamangalam should be converted into a cart road.

The road from Muvattupuzha to Palakuzha *via* Arakkuzha should be repaired and metalled.

A central cross road should be opened.

A bridge should be constructed at Kuzhikandam *kadavu*.

The branch road opened by the people from Pindimana to Thrikkariyur road should be taken over for departmental maintenance.

A road should be opened from the 4th mile-stone of the Kothamangalom-Neriamangalom road to the Neduvakkad road and from there to the Kumaramangalom-Kalavur road.

A road should be opened from the neighbourhood of the Mathirapally mosque to the Kuzhikandam-Varapetty road.

A road should be opened from the 2nd mile-stone of the Muvattupuzha-Arakuzha road to the Muvattupuzha Todupuzha road *via* Peringozha.

The ryots' road from the 5th furlong of the 4th mile of the Muvattupuzha-Arakuzha road to the Arakuzha schools should be taken over by Government and completed.

The old village road from the 10th mile of the Vazhakulam-Kothamangalam road to Muvattupuzha passing along Kuzhikandam *kadavu* should be converted into a cart road after removing the encroachments thereon.

The Keezhukai *todu* which flowed into the Muvattupuzha river should be deepened and made navigable.

The encroachments on the poramboke lands adjoining the Variathu *chira* in Kuttamangalam *pakuthi* should be removed and the *chira* deepened.

A landing ghat should be constructed on the Kothamangalam river near the market. Two landing ghats above the dam in the Kothamangalam river should also be constructed, with the necessary flights of steps.

A tank should be constructed near the Koothattukulam market.

Dams should be constructed at the following places :—

(i) at Eruppumkal in the Chelad *todu*;
(ii) at Palampara in the Pareekanni river; and
(iii) at Chakkumchira in Piramadam *kara*, Thirumaradi *pakuthi*, near the Neriamangalam road.

The English school at Kothamangalam was held temporarily in a rented building as certain repairs had to be carried out to the permanent building which was situated in an excellent locality near the Kothamangalam-Neriamangalam road. The repairs should be attended

to immediately and the school retransferred to the permanent building without any more delay.

A grant should be awarded to the English Girls' school at Kothamangalam which was maintained by the Convent. Permission should also be accorded for opening Form III in the school.

The Magistrate at Muvattupuzha exercised only third class powers. A Second Class Magistrate should be immediately appointed in the taluk.

A public market should be established in the Kuttamangalam *pakuthi* at the junction of the Pareekanni road and the Kothamangalam-Neriamangalam road.

The member, in conclusion, gave expression to the loyalty of the people of his taluk to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent and His Highness the Maha Raja.

DEWAN'S REPLY: നിങ്ങൾ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെക്കും മഹാറാണിറീജൻറു തിരുമനസ്സിലെക്കും പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള രാജഭക്തിയെ ഞാൻ തിരുമനസ്സറിയിക്കാം.

നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതിൽ സാരമായ പല സംഗതികളുമുണ്ട്. അതിനെല്ലാം ഉടനടി മറുപടിപറവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞ വിഷയങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റിയെല്ലാം ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഗൗരവമായി ആലോചിക്കുന്നതാണു്.

[I shall convey to His Highness the Maha Raja and to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent your expression of loyalty. Many valuable suggestions have been made by you and it is not possible to reply to them immediately. All of them will receive the earnest consideration of Government.]

133. Needs of the Kunnatnad taluk.

MR. NARAYANA PILLAI KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kunnatnad taluk, Group I*), who made his representation in Malayalam, said that it was 19 years since a Munsiff's Court was opened at Perumbavur. The court had been held all those years in a shed adjoining the *satram*, which was too small to accommodate Vakils, clerks and clients. Valuable records had been stolen from the records room of the court. The Government had sanctioned the construction of a building and a plan and estimate had been prepared therefor. Provision should be made for the work in the budget for 1107 and the building constructed as early as possible.

Bridges should be constructed at Thannipuzha *kadavu* at the 148th mile of the M. C. road and at the Puliyannada *todu* in Kodanad.

A new road should be opened from the road near the *pakuthi* cutcherry at Manjapra to Aiyanpuzha *via* Kothayi, Kallekandam and other places. The road would be very useful to the people of Manjapra, Manikkamangalam and other places and to the Forest Department, particularly, as it would provide facilities for the transport of timber to the depots. To a deputation of the people of those localities led by